

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the arguments presented in the Office Action and respectfully request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented below.

Claims 30, 39, and 41 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-29, 31-38 and 40 are pending in the application.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-6, 7-13, 17-28 and 38 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,620,188 B1 in view of U.S. 6,969,699 B2 to Schock et al.

Applicants have prepared and enclosed an executed Terminal Disclaimer signed by Applicants' attorney of record. The prescribed Terminal Disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) was previously submitted by electronic credit card payment on June 3, 2009.

Claims 14-16 and 40 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the Terminal Disclaimer filed concurrently herewith, these objections are now moot and request that they be withdrawn and that claims 14-16 and 40 be allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 31-37 are allowed.

For these reasons, Applicants believe that all pending claims are patentable over the cited art. Applicants respectfully request that the claims pending in the application be allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have carefully reviewed the arguments presented in the Office Action and respectfully request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the above amendments and arguments, or any suggestions for further amending the claims to obtain allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney, John Fitzgerald, at 310-242-2667.

Please charge any additional fees payable in connection with this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Date: September 16, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LLP

By: / john k. fitzgerald /
John K. Fitzgerald
Registration No. 38,881

JKF:vmm

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201
362258.1